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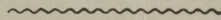
Lackay & Whitsonday



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THE ISLANDS.

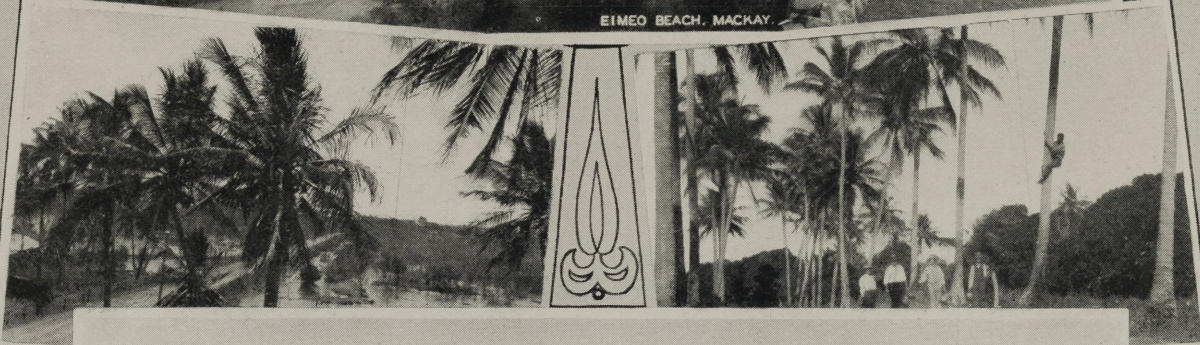
There is a spot I know, and oft my mind,
Thither transported, seems to find repose.
The great grey jagged peaks stand guard behind,
And sunrise cloudlets, tinted gold and rose,
Are garlanded about them. Shining sand,
And curling breakers from the open sea
Far on the reef. And on us falls the spell
Of tropic night's bewitching mystery.

—L. Gaden Mills.

EUNGELLA RANGE ROAD



EIMEO BEACH, MACKAY.



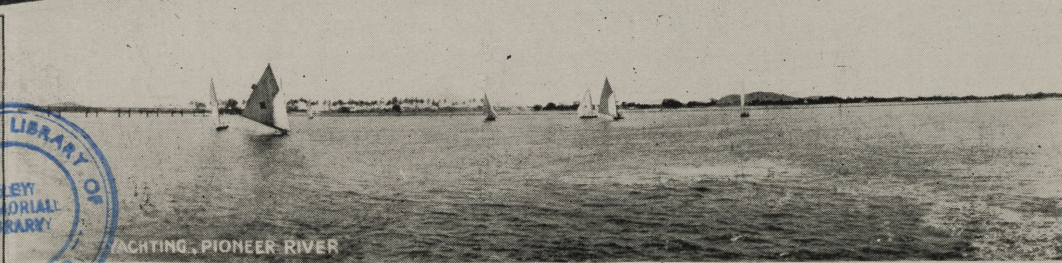
SEAVIEW BEACH



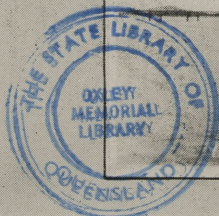
ON REDCLIFFE IS., SEAFORTH.



SLADE POINT



YACHTING, PIONEER RIVER





MACKAY CITY AND PIONEER RIVER BRIDGE

IN THE BEGINNING

Mackay's Origins and Beauties

MACKAY'S old-time principal transport, its river, was discovered by a sea captain seventy years ago. Find a large river, choose the best site from navigating and pastoral aspects, and there the river port cum trading post! Then depth of water and swinging room were not important, and the sure "iron horse" a pleasing dream.

Captain John Mackay, in 1862, returned overland with horses and cattle to "Mackay" River, but later his fame as pioneer was placed in the town, and the river was called Pioneer. With the development of the sugar industry in Queensland, agriculture soon took its rightful position as the exploiting agency of these rich lands. Mr. John Spiller, in 1864, was the first to plant sugar-cane, and Mr. J. E. Davidson erected the first mill.

Most of the sea-borne traffic is lightered from vessels at the Flat Top Island anchorage, off Pioneer River entrance. Mackay is 598 miles by rail from Brisbane on the Sunshine Route, and the completion of the North Coast Railway was of great service to Mackay district.

From the lovely remains of the great forests of Mackay that garland the Pioneer River and its tributary streams, we easily vision the wealth of noble tree, beautiful palm and fern, flowering creeper and shrub, and native blooms that once glorified every foot of

the landscape. Production came first in anxious pioneering days, and the clearing of another 10,000 acres of forest did not appear any particular harm.

Mackay citizens feel that we do not live by bread alone, and are stirring strongly to have a substantial National Park of 90,000 acres reserved in the Mount Dalrymple area of native jungle, and including Mounts Omega and Macartney.

Visitors after seeing this great forest with its large palm and fern groves, bewildering undergrowth of vines, and magnificent panoramas, agree that its reservation in ample measure is national work. Smaller reservations along the upper reaches of St. Helens and other creeks are deserved by the striking prettiness of these streams in their native dress, whose delicate, wild loveliness once lost can never be regained.

"When the lamp is shattered,
The light in the dust lies dead;
When the cloud is scattered,
The rainbow's glory is shed."

One enterprising citizen in his private zoo has many interesting specimens of birds and animals of Mackay's pioneering days. The saltwater, tidal crocodile, or "alligator," is included. Experts advised us that crocodiles are most numerous in the tidal Proserpine River entrance and its mangrove covered mud flats, and can be stalked as they bask in the winter sun.



SYDNEY AND NORTH STREETS, MACKAY

BY RIVER AND SEA

Striking Panoramas and Scenic Drives

The grove of coconut palms that beautifies the Pioneer River bank near the city is a reminder that Mackay is a North Queensland centre. Whatever activities its energetic commercial men and municipal officers may undertake, we observe recognition always in this Sugaropolis of the importance of cane-growing and milling.

The city with nearly 10,000 population has wide streets, tree-lined, with a pleasant water frontage to the Pioneer River, here a broad sheet of tidal flow, and but a mile or so from the sea. Between Mackay and the sea the country is level, with comfortable suburban homes circled by palms and ferns, tropical flowers, and fruit trees. An ample water supply and electric lighting are amongst the modern appointments of Mackay.

An excellent golf course with grass greens, bowling greens, croquet lawns, tennis courts, and cricket and football playing fields are included in the sporting facilities.

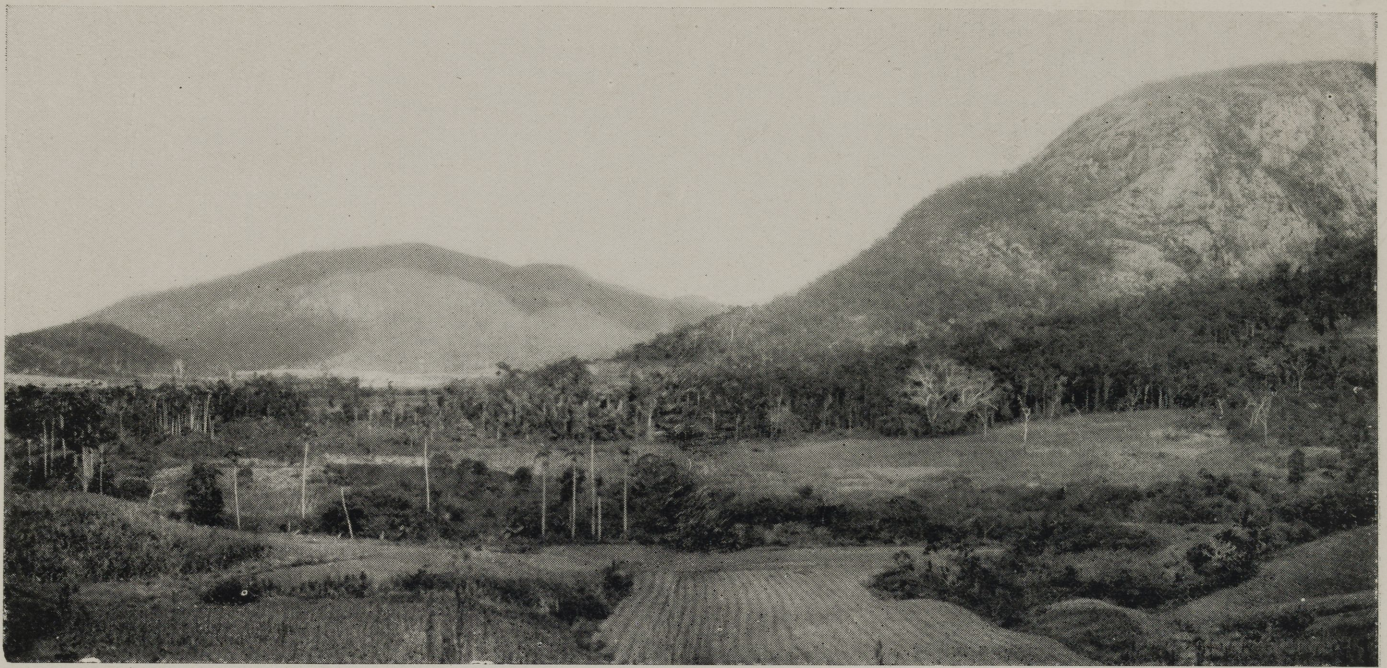
On the north side of Pioneer River are eminences which provide charming panoramas of city and ocean. One of the best views is from Mount Oscar, 3 miles from Mackay. It gives a vivid picture, at 300 feet elevation, of the Pioneer's wide city reaches spanned by its long bridge, the spreading town and suburbs to the Pacific's blue waters and islands, and west over near and far green canefields to the ranges. Mount Oscar's slopes are

noted for their large mango groves. We were able here to taste the tamarind's sweet tartness.

Mackay's parks, gardens, and lily ponds lately have been under review for further improvement and beautification. One of its near hills could well be reserved in recognition of the magnificence of the views. That love of the beautiful is strongly abroad in Mackay was emphasised for us in the striking collection by a resident of over 300 varieties of that remarkable flowering leaf, the caladium.

At all times drives along the main country roads of Mackay are a delight, though the period following heavy rains is best because of the new life pulsing verdantly and colourfully through tree, leaf, and flower. The river and creeks are full, and Nature is complete and shining everywhere.

In spring the mignonette bloom of the mango is seen constantly. One mango avenue is a mile long. Guavas also flourish. The striking Dumbleton Rocks, the various pretty crossings and scenes on Pioneer River, and the former home, at Marian, of the world's best soprano and Queen of Song, the late Madame Melba, are incidents of the drive through leagues of cane, and past busy sugar-mills. The Pioneer has many charming vistas. "The Dingle" was suggestive to us of Dingly Dell, and everything remindful of a miniature, bush-embowered ravine.



MT. BLACKWOOD

CANE FARMS, MT. JUKES VALLEY

MT. JUKES

A SUGAROPOLIS

Industrial Mackay's Varied Resources

What news on the Rialto there may be in Mackay is usually about sugar, for the district has a greater area under cane than any other in Queensland. Its 1,453 farms give it first place of all petty sessions districts in number of farms tilled.

Seven large sugar-mills and a Sugar Experiment Station emphasise the importance of Mackay's leading contribution to this great Australian industry and bulwark to the national ideal of a White Australia, one in race and language. Like other large sugar centres, Mackay finds employment in fields and mills every season for many workers from Southern States, and substantial orders for commercial men representing Southern manufacturers and wholesale merchants.

Hospitable and the reverse of parochial in outlook, Mackay people can point with satisfaction to district business enterprise of wide reputation. One firm of Mackay wholesale merchants is known throughout the State, and conspicuous in the fine retail premises in Mackay is an old-established business whose big stores for some time had the longest continuous window display in Queensland.

At Sarina and its Plane Creek sugar-mill is the factory of the Australian National Power Alcohol Company, a new enterprise of great concern to the Commonwealth. From molasses, a largely unused by-product of sugar, power alcohol is obtained, and when mixed in the proportion of 15 per cent. power alcohol with petrol, a

first-class motor fuel, known as Shellkol, is the result. Among the principal advantages of Shellkol are stated to be cooler running and economy in oil, more power, less trouble with water, and elimination of "knocking" and carbon deposits.

Mackay's extensive sugar areas in 1929 produced 508,428 tons of sugar-cane. Besides figuring as one of Queensland's largest growers of mangoes, the district, in 1929, raised 21,410 bunches of bananas, and considerable quantities of papaws, custard apples, and pine-apples. The orange flower perfumed the bower to the extent of 4,965 bushels of excellent fruit. The growing of fruit could be greatly extended. Papaws reach 10 to 12 lb. in weight, and melons 30 lb.

Dairying has been always regarded as having a future in Mackay. The lately-built butter factory has nearly 100 suppliers. Eungella plateau has much fine dairying country undeveloped. With an average rainfall of 67 inches and good grass-growing land, Mackay district is suited to all classes of agriculture. Eungella Range has a rainfall of 80 inches. We noted small stands of hoop pine at various points of Mackay district. Eungella Range has a considerable timber industry.

The "Diggings Road" on Eungella plateau showed us that in Mount Britten, Mackay had its fleeting gold-mining romance. Copper was formerly mined at Pinevale.



FAR (TOWN) BEACH, MACKAY

BEACHES AND ISLANDS

Bluest Sea by Palm-Clad Shores

Mackay is almost on the seaside. Near Beach is only a mile distant from that morning dip. Far Beach, 2 miles south of Pioneer River, has good tea-tree shelter and bathing boxes, and coconut trees will be planted along this fine ocean front.

For an afternoon or day trip to the seaside, Eimeo to the north of Pioneer River is the magic word at Mackay. Eimeo of the lone consonant and three long vowel sounds is really the centre of a magnificent natural marshalling of beautiful beaches and seascapes. The first from Mackay is Slade Point, with many sea-side cottages. There is a striking panorama southwards past Flat Top and Round Top Islands, and north over brief sandy bays and long beach sweeps to Eimeo. For many miles beyond Eimeo to Cape Hillsborough are more shining sands with important creeks, with the near Cumberland Isles lining the sea.

Many travellers have remarked on the deeper, brighter blue of these changing North Queensland seas of the coral waterway. The day we saw the sea at Slade Point the waves with white feathery fringes were dancing high to the beach. And the colour of the sea! True blue, indigo blue, blue as a flower, blue as the fairy flax—these were a few of the similes that sprang to the mind and still left us unsatisfied and seeking.

Beyond Slade Point are Black's and Retreat beaches. The view over miles of white sands to Eimeo heights

has that rare appeal which incites us to explore further. Eimeo beach is prettily situated between two projecting lookouts. Immediately north is Seaview Beach, a splendid curve of yellow sands well shaded with large tea-trees. Charming tropic notes on these beaches are the groves of graceful, slender coconut palms that preen their feathery headdress high above the surrounding trees and vegetation.

Mangoes in Mackay grow as tall as a steeple and as wide as a house. We met large groves and long avenues of them even at the seaside. When our drive to one Eimeo beach ended with a run under the thick green of interlacing mango leaves it seemed needless to ask how many miles to Fairyland?

At the northern confine of Seaview Beach is Shoal Point. Beyond is a series of beaches and creeks to Port Newry, 20 miles distant. The string of islands that jewel the ocean to the far horizon increases the enchantment of the panorama. Some are cliff-faced or spring stark and rugged from the blue waters; others have softer, curving outlines suggesting miniature, shining beaches set like pearls in tiny bush-ringed bays or coral-bordered coves.

Beyond are greater realms of romance, the coral reef-enclosed waters and sandy islets. And we gaze until in fancy we see a palm grove rise on a coral strand on the shore of a blue lagoon.



THE TOWNSHIP, EUNGELLA RANGE

MOUNTAINS OF THE MIST

Eungella's Kaleidoscopic Landscapes

Though the first impression of Mackay district is of a far-spreading green plain of sugar-growing lands, the hardy tribes of the mountains are on the south within 20 miles of the city. The Eungella Range is the boldest and most distant section of the encircling heights, yet within two or three hours we are thanking our driver for taking us into the land of our dreams, of blue misty mountains and murmuring streams.

Eungella (pronounced Yungella) means Land of the Mist or Clouds. Like other ranges near Mackay, Eungella is usually capped with a blue mist or haze.

The drive up the range from pretty Netherdale, nestling at the mountain's foot, begins with an attractive run by the palm and fern bordered Cattle Creek. We rise steadily over a well-kept mountain road, with streamlets from the heights breaking through the now denser vegetation, and each and more elevated scenic lookout showing us the Pioneer River valley as an enlarging picture of ever-widening areas of verdant cultivation, with the course of the creeks marked by palms and river oaks.

Eungella Range is 2,300 to 3,200 feet above sea-level. The many waterfalls and streams, and the evergreenness of tree, plant, and grass, bespeak the heavy rainfall of over 80 inches annually that has made that rich land of red volcanic soil for ages produce a dense forest of big trees, palms, ferns, and vines. This country is

highly desirable for dairying, fruitgrowing, and general agriculture.

The Broken River Falls trip occupies an absorbing morning. Through thick rain forest of Eungella gums, fig-tree parasites, palms, and ferns, our way turned into open forest, cattle grazing country, to an old mining centre on the river bank. A bracing walk followed along the riverside to the falls, the stream becoming silvery and talkative as it hurtled its way through rocky narrows and over stony rapids, or dark and silent as it fell into deep, drowsing pools. Suddenly we came upon the Falls—

“Where a wild stream with headlong shock
Came brawling down its bed of rock.”

We saw the stream after a long dry spell, but still singing and splashing over great boulder faces, overhung by the white petals of the gums and the bright cherry-red of the bottle brush. What a magnificent spectacle, a young Niagara in the wet season!

Then followed a surprising drive over dry and open forest highlands with a sudden twist along a winding track into an unexpected patch of dense green jungle of Eungella's thickest type. Next came a couple of hundred yards of open forest road, up hill and down dell, and presto! The scene changed to a broad, green meadow covered by richly golden buttercups, with scores of cattle grazing and completing a truly English rural picture.



MT. DALRYMPLE ROAD, EUNGELLA RANGE

INVITING TROPIC GRANDEUR

Dense Native Jungle and Bird Life

Eungella Range reaches 4,200 feet in Mount Dalrymple. But here is no desolate, inhospitable majesty that might make the wayfarer sigh to hear the watchdog's honest bark or "children whooping wild beneath the willows green." The grandeur of Eungella, Dalrymple, and Omega is of noble, azure-misty range and peaks, of a royal forest throwing its refreshing evergreen mantle over gorge slopes and summit, and everywhere the soft, inviting beauty of the tropics.

We were greeted on arrival at Eungella in the early morning with an outburst of tuneful piping notes by native bird songsters. This orchestration was as brightly vigorous as a military band in the attack, or opening bars, of a quickstep. "Crow magpies," we were told.

Eungella Range forests are rich in feathered forms. The satin and golden bower birds, with their decorated courting bowers, the whipbird with its cracking, whip-like ending to its call, the bell magpie, white and black cockatoos, green, yellow, and scarlet fruit-eating pigeons, blue and red mountain lowries, the red and green king parrot, and blue mountain parrot are amongst the striking and pretty sylvan inhabitants. Butcher birds, of musical fame, are in the open forest country.

Of the game birds, the wood, whistler, and teal among the ducks, water hen, scrub turkey, scrub hen, pheasants, quail, the wonga, flock, and other pigeons, are here. Wallabies, kangaroos, opossums, and bears abound.

The red and white Eungella gums, going over 120 feet, are amongst the giants of the forest and are largely included in the timbers obtained, otherwise mainly cedar, blue and flooded gums, ironbark, red and yellow stringybark, messmate, and bloodwood. The scented sassafras, green and pink under its grey bark, the crowsfoot elm, the fig-tree parasite in all stages of its curious, constricting vampirism, bangalow and cabbage palms, tree ferns, Eungella maidenhair and tassel ferns, elkhorns, staghorns, and crow's nests, flourish in the Eungella forest or native jungle. Wild raspberries, Cape gooseberries, and passion fruit grow along the roadsides. Lovely orchids adorn trees and rocks, "Earth's cultureless buds" beautify the glades, and native creepers of many hues flower in the forest.

From the Lookout, at 2,700 feet, on Mount Dalrymple Road there are glorious views of the ranges and forest-mantled slopes, the gorges and creeks to the broad valley of the Pioneer River and on to the sugar lands of Mackay. As the road winds to Mount Dalrymple, the forest becomes even grander and more varied and the panoramas of increasing magnificence. Such glorious forest and mountain scenery clamours for national reservation for all time, lest it come to be said—

Like the dew on the mountain,
Like the foam on the river,
Like the bubble on the fountain,
Thou art gone and for ever.



COCONUT GROVE AND HOOP PINE, SEAFORTH BEACH

THE BEACH ENCHANTING

Coco Palms and Pines of Seaforth

Shores tree-crowned with straight hoop pine and bending coco-palms, with glittering sands and isle-girt waters of sea green, deep blue to purple, and fruiting mango trees for deepest shade and rich dessert! So it was with Newry Bay and Seaforth Beach one bright November morning, when all land and sea were glad with early summer.

The way is by Farleigh Sugar Mill, with delightful views of cane farms and winding creeks shaded by tall, slender bangalow palms and river oaks. In the fresh, early hours, the outlook was so pleasing that all the world seemed good. Passing the conspicuous bluff known as The Leap, Mount Jukes and Mount Blackwood soon appear as a pair of heights reaching to 2,300 feet. At the foot of the sheer rock face of Mount Jukes is a charming prospect looking to Jordan's Gap, a beautiful sugar-growing valley ornamented by many bangalow palms and the remaining fringe of forest on the mountain slopes. The tall hoop pine lines the brow of Mount Blackwood.

We pass over Jordan's Gap, from which can be seen the shoreward peaks, Brandon Island, the Newry Islands to Cape Conway and Whitsunday Islands, and inland to the Eungella Range and spurs. The way leads for miles through level country and open forest to Seaforth Beach.

Many years ago a far-sighted enthusiast planted hundreds of coconut palms along this beautiful sea-

front, with its 2 miles of hard beach, over which motor cars can travel at top speed. To-day these palms in season carry large burdens of nuts, and Mackay men and youths have become expert at climbing them and dropping the spoil. We saw two or three climbers to whom monkeys could give no points over the 50 feet of bending, branchless stems.

The agility needed to climb the coconut tree is shown by the number of steps cut in some trees. These steps recall the over-practical Chinese who was killed by the blacks because he cut down a coconut tree to get the nuts quickly.

The palms are the striking feature of this remarkable grove, but in their long lanes are interspersed many stately hoop pines, several of that noble tree, the Kauri pine, and the shy, drooping she-oaks (*Casuarinas*). Pink and white oleanders add a floral decoration. Back from the beach is a large plantation of mangoes, whose pale to deep-green leaves, with occasionally a patch of the reddish new growth, and the ripening fruit of early summer, make a pleasant retreat for family groups and holiday parties.

Seaforth Beach, with Newry Bay, is so enchanting an oceanside picture of a loveliness superb, of pleasure and comfort in stream and sands and shade, of peace and plenty, that we wish it never would change nor pass away, but always stay by us and around us.



PORT NEWRY AND CONCERTINA ROCK

A PERFECT HAVEN

Newry Bay for Pleasure and Sport

North of the Pioneer River, the many captivating creeks run north and east to that colourful sea whose vivid blue makes it appear alive. One of these tidal streams finds the sea south of Seaforth Beach. From here we go by motor launch around Newry Bay and islands.

These lovely creeks seem to have no banks when the tide is full, and the bordering mangroves float like tall, green seaweed on the surface. The waters are too green and quietly moving for a flood, and there was no moaning of the bar when we put out to sea. But such a tide as moving seems asleep. . . .

On the sea fairly, and we learn that the Port Newry fishermen regularly deliver their catches to Mackay market, Deo volente, of course, but weather or other obstacles notwithstanding. Salmon, snapper, bream, rock cod, barramundi, whiting, and tailor were named among the principal varieties of the plentiful finny produce.

Shooting on the mainland and islands? Yes—ducks, pigeons, scrub turkeys, snipe, kangaroos. . . . And then came a flock of snipe, flying near the launch, a whirling throng in many graceful evolutions and finally wheeling sharply like a disciplined troop to an island beach, and spreading fanwise on the sands. To be a bird for a summer day over Newry seashore should be the height of aerial bliss.

But our motor launch goes gaily over the untroubled sea in a light, cool breeze, and we are soon passing under the lee of numerous islands. The waters between the mainland and inner Redcliffe, over which we are, recede so far when the tide is out that motors and other vehicles can drive over the quarter of a mile distance that is as hard as a gravelled road. A similar natural marvel occurs between outer and inner Redcliffe Islands.

The Newry Islands, the large Rabbit Island, and other sea gems, with inviting white beaches and glorious forest backgrounds, and hills with grassy slopes, steadily slip by us. Here and there a resident family sends its messenger for parcels from the launch. With difficulty we restrain ourselves from going ashore and joining them in such appealing, arcadian environment. The long channels at the northern end of Newry, with their glossy green fringing of mangroves and distant blue mountains, are pretty waterways.

Concertina Rock, with its round, grooved shape, is the most striking weather-beaten specimen of the action of wind and wave on rock. But the lasting memory of Newry Bay is not one of hardy life or grinding combat. Rather is it of peaceful marine beauty of large and small green islands in sheltered sea waters, where a fleet could ride at ease, and where boating havens, fishing grounds, and bathing beaches call a welcome to a delightful holiday.



ETON RANGE FOREST



PLANE CREEK, SARINA

ETON-SARINA RANGE VIEWS

Beautiful Beaches and Streams

East by south the ranges extend from Eungella by Connor's Range to beyond Sarina and within a few miles of the coast. They curve towards Mackay at Eton, where they are only 20 miles from the city. All roads from Mackay lead through canefields and past sugar-mills, and so we go to Eton.

A pleasant drive up the Eton Range displays that at 800 feet there is fine cattle country extending for many miles, and occupied in numerous large stations. Mackay district stock, in 1930, included 120,000 cattle and 23,000 horses. There are two hotels on this Eton Range cattle country of the open forest grass lands, an interesting contrast with the sugar plantations.

Many tidal creeks are on the 23 miles from Mackay to Sarina. One large stream is called Alligator Creek, and it is not the only creek in Mackay district to be named "Alligator" in proof of the fact that the crocodile country of North Queensland covers these areas. Sarina is on Plane Creek, a pretty stream with bush-fringed reaches near this sugar-milling town. Plane Creek waters empty into a picturesque, expansive inlet running far into the land.

From the range heights above Sarina is obtained, at 800 feet, sweeping views of green cane-growing valleys and forest-covered foreshores, with many inlets and creeks helping to indent the coast line. Sarina district

is famed for its big cane. The Plane Creek Mill, with power alcohol factory adjoining, draws supplies as far south as Koumala and Carmila, in Central Queensland.

Sarina is unquestionably in Mackay district and of North Queensland. And it was here that we settled the vexed issue of Mackay's pronunciation. One may be Artium Magister, or quite a Fellow in Phonetics, but when he sounds it Mac-kai, he may be met with Mac-keh, or even Mack-ee. A Sarina Scotsman answered our appeal for a Jovian fiat with this triplet—"Hi! hi, hi, Meester Mackay, tak' me wi' ye when ye fly, back to the Isle of Skye."

To the Sarina beach front we went one sunny November morning, when the conditions were ideal for bathing. Clean, yellow sands, hard and level for walking and driving, and with good lookouts from whence can be obtained fine views over the broad Plane Creek inlet, the deep-set, attractive Llewellyn Bay of numerous creeks, and to Taffy Island and Glendower Point. Sarina is fortunate in its ocean playgrounds.

Plane Creek tramway takes the raw sugar to Louisa Creek for export. This stream, with the powerful incoming tide so noticeable on this coastal section and south, was teeming with fish the afternoon of our visit, and confirmed Sarina's reputation for fishing and oystering grounds. From the outstanding Hay Point a magnificent seascape is unfolded from Flat Top and Round Top south to Prudhoe Island.



GORGE CREEK FALLS, EUNGELLA RANGE



DUMBLETON ROCKS, PIONEER RIVER

LAND OF RUNNING WATERS

Palm and Oak-Lined Fairy Rivulets

After the rainy season the Mackay country is "a girdle of verdure deep and wide, where ever-living waters glide." In the dry period in winter to early summer, though the cataracts do not roar and in torrents from the mountains the creeks no longer pour, there are running streams of beautiful, clear water everywhere. Here the limpid rivulets purl over rocky platforms, or splash and gurgle down the boulder-dotted narrows and sloping, gravel-spread beds. There the waters run into a large, deep pool, wide enough for boating and swimming, in whose quiet, dark backwash the stream is relieved of its fret and fever.

Most of these creeks are bordered by picturesque remains of the once all-pervading primeval forest which is seen at the height and perfection of its ever-renewing youth and beauty on Eungella Range. Sometimes the crossings are tree-embowered and brightened florally by the glistening white of the lillipilly and the cerise of the bottle brush.

Cattle Creek is crossed and touched several times on the road to Eungella. It has many picturesque reaches and appealing pools and rocky rapids. A trip to Pinevale, on the Pioneer River's upper waters, where the hoop pines cast their tops 50 feet above the average forest vegetation, leaves memories of charming picnic spots on sandy river shores near inviting rock-bed

crossings and pools, and walks up Pinevale, through dense, evergreen woods, flanked by tall pines, and overhung by many flowering creepers.

Finch Hatton gorge and creek and Owen's Creek have attractive landscapes of fine cane farms, with green fields stretching to palm- and oak-bordered streams and to the forest-cloaked slopes of the ranges. The blue ribbon for loveliness belongs to a tour by Kungurri, through the Silent Grove Creek lands, past the foot of densely wooded Mount Pelion, over the pretty and important Murray Creek, and to Cameron's Pocket in the rain forest along St. Helens Creek.

Here the elegant bangalow palms and river oaks (Casuarinas) thickly cluster over upper St. Helens Creek, with its encircling mountains, fine gorge, and falls. A monster seven-trunked fig-tree is a vegetable wonder here. A car can be driven between its trunks. Nearer Mackay, an all-embracing fig-tree is seen at its base encircling a large rock.

Broad, clean crossings of gravel and rock, with pellucid water, a call to drink deeply, these streams of the leafy-shaded shores are in idyllic environment where elves and sprites would love to gambol. These bowered rivulets impel the question whether their beauties are protected, for fear that their fragile glories may be like fairy gifts fading away and not even a fair ruin remain.



FROM LINDEMAN, OVERLOOKING LION (PENTECOST) ISLAND

LOVELY LINDEMAN

Island Jewel of Whitsunday Passage

Bevis, the boy who needed an island of his own to be happy, would have been in heaven in this section of Oceania, where the coral-fringed Pacific waters protected by the Great Barrier Reef have thousands of islands of continental origin and coral formation and numerous coral reefs.

Mackay's shores are bordered by lines of islands here and there thickening into groups and clustering ways. Mackay is close to the southern approach to Whitsunday Passage. This famed channel is 60 miles long. Around its charmed waters beautiful islands large and small, some used for grazing and with grassy slopes, and others rugged and pine-forested, with peaks rising to 1,800 feet, throng in scores and in many pretty and fantastic forms.

On Lindeman Island, next to the larger Shaw Island and well within the southern entrance to Whitsunday Passage, has fallen the choice of island experts and Mackay people as the best and most central point of departure for organised excursions and tours in Whitsunday Group. Lindeman Island and environs are certainly conspicuous pearls in the regal Whitsunday Island diadem.

Covering 3 square miles, with permanent water, a good grazing tableland and soil suitable for tropical fruits, Lindeman has utility as well as great scenic

attraction. There is an eight-roomed bungalow, lit by acetylene gas, besides the residence of the island lessee, and further improvements to the accommodation are contemplated. The separate dining-room can be used as a dancing hall. Launches 40 feet in length are available for island cruises, with small craft for fishing.

Near the house is a fine swimming beach, and in front of it is a coral reef garden that is a charming introduction to the marine wonders farther afield. Lindeman Island residents are skilled in the spearing and catching of sharks, turtles, and fish. Visitors should select their fishing equipment in Mackay before leaving for Lindeman.

Mount Oldfield, over 700 feet above sea level, is within easy walk of the accommodation bungalow. Between Lindeman, Shaw, and Maher Islands is the strikingly beautiful Kennedy Sound, whose waters are from thirty to a hundred fathoms deep. Mount Oldfield has a close, commanding view of the charms of Kennedy Sound.

The wonderful panoramas take in over seventy islands from St. Bees, near Mackay, to Gloucester Island, 60 miles north. The eye ranges to the mainland over Cape Conway and Repulse Bay until Mount Jukes and Mount Blackwood, rapidly followed by the towering peaks of Dalrymple, Omega, and Macartney, furnish the spear-point mountain crest of an absorbing vision of sea and ocean shore and blue-veiled ranges.



CAMPING AT CHUTE HARBOUR

GLORIES OF WHITSUNDAY

Panoramic Seascapes and Fishing Paradise

With Lindeman Island as the home base there are numerous half-day and day excursions. Pentecost, or Lion Island because of its pronounced leonine shape, is seen best, perhaps, from the Gap, three-quarters of an hour's stroll from the residential quarters. The outlook here over the islands, and from Boat Port and Plantation Beach, similar short distances from the house, provide splendid views of islands, inlets, bays, and channels—a glorious medley of aquatic features of which Kennedy Sound stays longest in the memory.

The fern-clad valleys, with their wildflowers, including golden and ribbon orchids, and the dainty shells and cat's-eyes found on Lindeman, pleasantly repay the pedestrian. At Boat Port there is excellent sport fishing and oystering, and the best of oystering at the Gap. Plantation Beach gives swimming in a freshwater spring.

Long trips that occupy a full day of delightful diversions are as numerous as they are gratifying in reminiscences in after years. And when those who have lived on these isles of the coral waterway set in seas of living blue, recall the glad days when they

“ . . . played for weeks in that bright land,

Where youth appears in endless dawn to dwell,

And skies of pearl o'er golden clouds expand,”

there comes ever the wish to return.

The Coral Pool, a one-day trip, is two hours' walk or by motor launch trip. The coral gardens and fish, shell

fish, and crabs are representative of the most notable aspects of coral reef life. A shady, pebbly beach adds to the day's enjoyment. Fishermen are kept busy plying their lines off the rocks. East Point, the same distance, has also a picnic beach, with sheltering pine trees and opportunities for swimming and oystering.

Near Lindeman Island sailing, motor-boating, fishing, and sea bathing can be enjoyed over many leagues of sea channels, island grounds, and shining beaches. In the holiday season boating parties from the mainland exchange friendly greetings and compare delighted impressions as they meet for a few hours in some cool, restful haven before proceeding in quest of further enchantment.

Giant mackerel or king fish trailing near Lindeman Island is exciting sport. Snapper, trevally, the blue parrot, colonial salmon, whiting, groper, flathead, coral cod, red emperor, and bream of several varieties are also caught in large numbers in what is one of the world's fishing paradises.

That remarkable mammal, the dugong or sea cow, is occasionally seen in these warm sea waters. Big green and tortoiseshell turtles, capable of carrying a man and so providing novel experiences, are on some of the islands. The beche-de-mer, the black sea slug which is dried and exported to China for food, is plentiful.



ENTRANCE TO KENNEDY SOUND

MARVELS OF CORAL SEA LIFE

Hundred Isles for Sea Roving Joys

The trip to Lindeman Island and Whitsunday Passage, whether direct from Mackay by St. Bees and Brandon Islands and passing through the Smith Group, or by the scenic Mount Jukes Valley and Seaforth Beach route and thence to Lindeman by launch, is a memorable sea tour in itself. Everybody enjoys voyaging on these placid waters behind the great coral barrier, and sheltered again by the numerous islands. There is the greatest variety that Australia knows in island-dotted sea roving.

One-day and longer tours, sometimes camping excursions, by launch to other islands and channels include several of extraordinary interest. Burning Point Beach, Shaw Island, has coconut groves and beautiful sea shells. There are many starfish with strange contrasts of brown, yellow, and red in dottings and markings. The rare colourings and astounding combinations of tints in the fish of the coral seas are exceeded in loveliness only by the remarkably bright and delicate shades of the coral gardens and living coral, from orange to pink, scarlet to the palest of blue. Some beaches are noted for powdered coral.

Swimming, fishing with rod and net, or off rocks, oystering, and exploring hills and valleys, are diversions at nearly every resort. Echo Bay has unusual properties in repeating sounds. The Blow Hole, Maher Island, and Turtle Island, facing Dent Island, are noted for

spearing fish and turtle hunting. On the trip to Molle Islands and Dent Island and lighthouse, Torres Strait pigeons and scrub turkeys are available for sportsmen.

The entrancing, peaceful loveliness of Cid Harbour and the prettiness of Chute Harbour are the gems of other tours to Whitsunday and Hamilton Islands. Molle Channel charms every visitor. Stag horns and other ferns, palms and orchids are noted on Whitsunday and other islands. Three islands are called Pine because of the abundance of hoop pine. Blue gum, Moreton Bay ash, and bloodwood are other principal timbers.

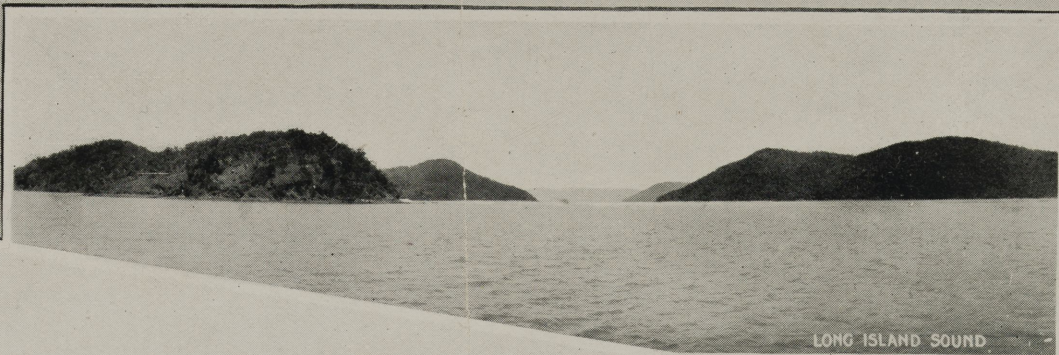
The coral reefs of Hazelwood and other islands, the many glorious inlets, channels, coves, and bays of this oceanic Garden of Eden can be imagined when it is said that 500 miles would need to be traversed to cover them all.

And south are the waterways of Cumberland Isles, and eastward the coral platforms and reef-enclosed lagoons and sandy islets of the Barrier, with more of the brilliant coral life and strange and teeming underworld of smooth and dreaming waters, deep blue in their sheltered calm, and ever crooning a lullaby—

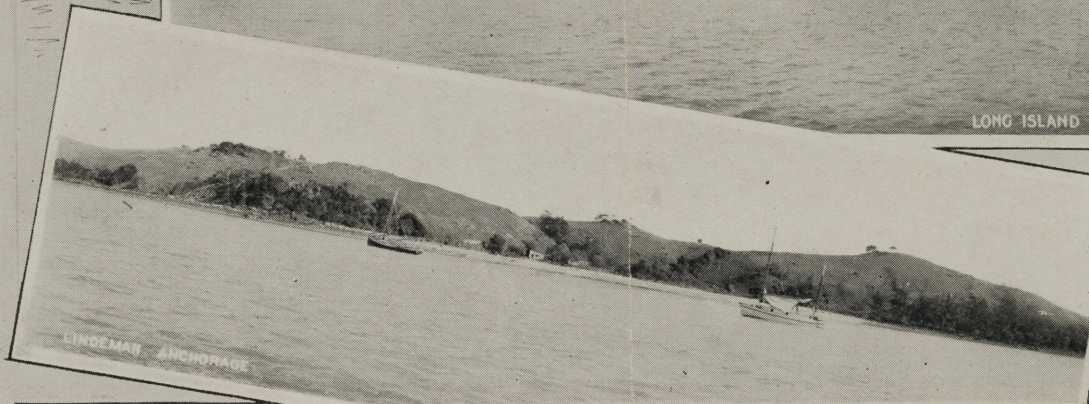
“The deeps have music soft and low,
When winds awake the azure sky—
It lures, lures us on to go
And see the land where corals lie.”

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LONG ISLAND SOUND



LINDEMAN ANCHORAGE



KENNEDY SOUND

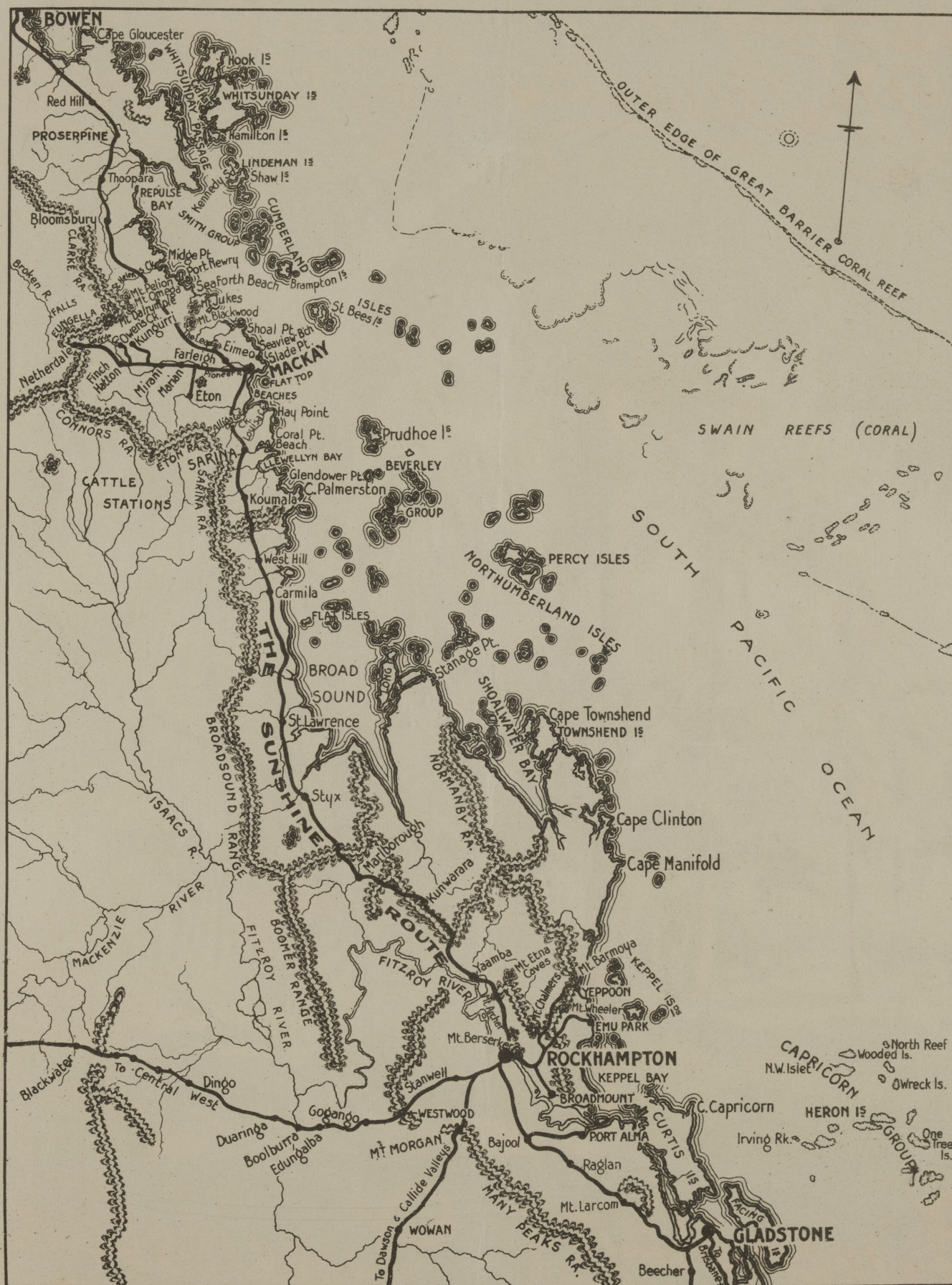


CHUTE HARBOUR

Scenes in
Whitsunday
Passage



CID HARBOUR



Mackay & Whitsunday Mackay & Whitsunday



Queenstown Queenstown